

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14. (canceled)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for tightening skin, comprising:
- providing a filament light source for delivering light energy to an area of skin;
 - placing a transmissive material in contact with an upper surface of the skin to be treated;
 - transmitting light energy from the light source through the transmissive material to the skin;
 - cooling the transmissive material for a predetermined time period after the termination of the transmission of light to the skin;
 - wherein the light energy transmitted to the skin and the cooling of the transmissive material create an inverted temperature profile in the skin, such that the upper surface of the skin is cooler than an area of skin below the upper surface, and wherein the light energy provides for heating a volume dermis in the skin, which is at a depth of between 1 mm to 5 mm below the upper surface of the skin, to a treatment temperature which is at least 50°C, wherein the skin is tightened as a result of heating the volume of dermis; and
 - ~~wherein the method further includes providing a notification signal to the user signaling a visual indication and discontinuing the visual indication after the end of the predetermined time period.~~

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 further comprising, starting the cooling of the transmissive material prior to transmitting light energy to the skin.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising, continuing the cooling of the transmissive material during the transmission of light to the skin.

Claim 18 (canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein light energy is transmitted through the transmissive material to the skin for a continuous period of time of between approximately 1.2 (one and two-tenths) seconds and 5 (five) seconds.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 further comprising, starting the cooling of the transmissive material prior to transmitting light energy to the skin.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further comprising, continuing the cooling of the transmissive material during the transmission of light to the skin.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising, continuing the cooling of the transmissive material after the termination of the transmission of light to the skin.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for tightening skin, comprising:
providing a broadband light source for delivering light energy to an area of skin;
placing a transmissive material in contact with an upper surface of the skin to be treated;

cooling the transmissive material for a predetermined time period after the termination of the transmission of light to the skin; and

transmitting light energy from the light source through the transmissive material to the skin, wherein light energy is transmitted through the transmissive material to the skin for a continuous period of time of between approximately 1.2 (one and two-tenths) seconds and 5 (five) seconds, and wherein the transmitted light energy operates to heat a volume dermis in the skin, which is at a depth of between 1 mm to 5 mm below the upper surface of the skin, to a treatment temperature which is at least 50°C; and

wherein the method further includes providing a notification signal to the user signaling a visual indication and discontinuing the visual indication after the end of the predetermined time period.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 further comprising:
cooling the transmissive material prior to and/or during transmission of light energy from the light source through the transmissive material to the skin ~~the transmitting step;~~ and

wherein the light energy transmitted to the skin and the cooling of the transmissive material create an inverted temperature profile in the skin, such that the upper surface of the skin is cooler than an area of skin below the upper surface, wherein the skin is tightened as a result of heating of dermis in the area of skin below the upper surface.

Claim 25 (canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 wherein ~~the cooling the transmissive material step~~ includes initiating cooling prior to transmitting light energy from the light source through the transmissive material ~~the transmission step,~~ and continuing the cooling of the transmissive material during the transmission of light to the skin.

Claims 27-32. (canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the treatment temperature is at least 60°C.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the treatment temperature is at least 60°C.

Claim 35 (canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the treatment temperature is at least 60°C.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the treatment temperature is at least 60°C.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the method further includes maintaining contact between the transmissive material and the skin until after the visual indication is discontinued.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the method further includes maintaining contact between the transmissive material and the skin until after the visual indication is discontinued.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein transmitting light energy from the light source ~~the transmitting step~~ includes applying a plurality of electrical current pulses to the filament of the filament light source, wherein a first pulse of the plurality of the electrical current pulses is the longest pulse of the plurality of pulses and operates to bring the filament to a temperature which results in the filament light source emitting light.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein transmitting light energy from the light source ~~the transmitting step~~ includes:

- applying a plurality of electrical pulses to the filament of the filament light source;
- sensing light produced by the filament; and
- when a power of the light produced by the filament drops below a first power level, applying a pulse of electrical current to the filament.

42. (NEW) The method of claim 15, wherein the filament light source is provided on the handpiece, wherein the method includes providing a visual indication on the

handpiece, wherein providing the notification signal includes discontinuing the visual indication after the end of the predetermined time period.

43. (NEW) The method of claim 15 wherein providing the notification signal includes sounding an auditory signal after the end of the predetermined time period.